

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CPR-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /046 W

-----008001 200614Z /20

R 200545Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7526

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2130

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINR, CE, YO

SUBJ: APPOINTMENT OF NEW SRI LANKAN AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA

REF: 73 COLOMBO A-198 (NOTAL)

1. IN A MINOR PRE-ELECTION RESHUFFLING OF AMBASSADORS, H. O. WIJEGOONAWARDENA (WEE-JAY-GOON-UH-WAR-DA-NA), SRI LANKAN FORMER AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO FILL THE VACANCY IN BELGRADE CREATED WHEN JAYAWARDENA MOVED TO MOSCOW. WIJEGOONAWARDENA, AGED 56, JOINED THE FOREIGN SERVICE WHEN IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1948, AND HAS SERVED IN LONDON, NEW DELHI, CANBERRA, THE UN, BAGHDAD, RANGOON, JAKARTA, AND CAIRO (THE LAST THREE POSTS AS AMBASSADOR). HE HAS BEEN POSTED OUT OF COLOMBO SINCE 1967 AND THUS HAS HAD NO RECENT CONTACT WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS HERE. WE UNDERSTAND HOWEVER THAT HE HAS BEEN A FRIENDLY AND GENERALLY PRO-WESTERN DIPLOMAT. BEFORE RECENT MAPUTO CONFERENCE, EMBASSY CAIRO REPORTED THAT WIJEGOONAWARDENA HAD BEEN HELPFUL TO THEM AND HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONTACT WITH THE USDEL AT CONFERENCE.

2. EMBASSY IS POUCHING REFERENCE AIRGRAM (CONTAINING DETAILED BIO INFORMATION) TO BELGRADE.

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3. AS A MATTER OF COLLATERAL INTEREST, AMBASSADOR SLOBODAN MARTINOVIC, WHO HAS REPRESENTED YUGOSLAVIA IN SRI LANKA SINCE NOVEMBER 1973, TELLS US HE WILL BE RETURNING HOME TO BELGRADE ABOUT AUGUST 1. HE EXPECTS TO BE REASSIGNED WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTRY. MARTINOVIC IS A FORMER YUGOSLAV DCM IN WASHINGTON, WHO HAS REPRESENTED HIS COUNTRY HERE MOST ABLY

DURING THE PERIOD OF THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE AND MARSHAL TITO AND HIS GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE FOUND MARTINOVIC, WHOSE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE IS NEXT DOOR TO OUR DCM RESIDENCE, TO BE VERY FRIENDLY AND FORTH-COMING. UNFORTUNATELY, NEITHER HE NOR HIS WIFE HAVE EVER FULLY RECOVERED FROM THE EMOTIONAL SHOCK OF LOSING A TEEN-AGE DAUGHTER TO CANCER A FEW YEARS AGO, A SUBJECT ON WHICH THEY TEND TO DWELL WHEN THEY COME TO KNOW ONE WELL. BOTH SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND HAVE VERY FAVORABLE RECOLLECTIONS OF THEIR YEARS IN THE STATES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COLOMB02130
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770219-0168
Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770641/aaaabjkg.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce58827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 2099313
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TAGS: PDIP, PINR, CE, YO, (WIJEGONAWARDENA, H O)
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
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